

**ASSEMBLY BILL**

**No. 1472**

**Introduced by Assembly Member Longville**

February 23, 2001

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An act to amend Sections 5011, 5017, and 9400 of, and to add Section 5014.1 to, the Vehicle Code, relating to vehicles.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 1472, as introduced, Longville. Vehicles: commercial vehicle registration.

(1) Existing law requires that every piece of special construction equipment, special mobile equipment, cemetery equipment, every tow dolly, trailer, semitrailer, and every logging vehicle display an identification plate, as specified.

This bill would delete an obsolete date in those provisions.

(2) Existing law provides for the issuance of identification plates for certain vehicles.

This bill would permit, upon the implementation of the permanent trailer identification plate program, that specified trailers be assigned a permanent identification plate. The bill would require a service fee to be assessed in an amount sufficient to pay at least the actual costs to the Department of Motor Vehicles, but not to exceed \$20.

(3) Existing law requires that an identification certificate be issued for each trailer or semitrailer assigned an identification plate, which is required to contain specified information. Existing law requires that when an identification certificate has been issued to a trailer or semitrailer, the owner or operator make that certificate available for inspection by a peace officer upon request.

This bill would also permit the owner or operator to make a copy of the registration that was valid for that trailer or semitrailer on December 30, 2001, available for inspection by a peace officer upon request.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes. State-mandated local program: no.

*The people of the State of California do enact as follows:*

1 SECTION 1. Legislative findings and declarations:

2 (a) The Legislature finds and declares that it is necessary to  
3 convert California's system of commercial vehicle registration  
4 from an unladen weight system to a gross vehicle weight system  
5 and to initiate a permanent trailer identification program.  
6 Furthermore, it is the intent of the Legislature that this conversion  
7 be revenue neutral to all cities and counties and all unladen weight  
8 fee system recipients.

9 (b) For the purposes of this act, "revenue neutrality" requires  
10 that all recipients of the fees collected under the system in effect  
11 on December 31, 2001, shall receive the same level of funding,  
12 with the same degree of flexibility, after the conversion to the  
13 system created by this act.

14 SEC. 2. Section 5011 of the Vehicle Code is amended to read:

15 5011. (a) Every piece of special construction equipment,  
16 special mobile equipment, cemetery equipment, every tow dolly,  
17 trailer, semitrailer, and every logging vehicle shall display an  
18 identification plate issued pursuant to Section 5014.

19 ~~(b) Effective January 1, 1986, all existing identification plates~~  
20 ~~are canceled. Owners of vehicles specified in subdivision (a) shall~~  
21 ~~apply for identification plates pursuant to Section 5014 or 5016.5.~~

22 SEC. 3. Section 5014.1 is added to the Vehicle Code, to read:

23 5014.1. (a) Upon the implementation of the permanent  
24 trailer identification plate program, the following applies:

25 (1) All trailers will receive an identification certificate upon  
26 conversion to the permanent trailer identification program. The  
27 following trailers, except as provided in Section 5101, may be  
28 assigned a trailer identification plate by the department in  
29 accordance with this section or the department may elect to keep  
30 the current plate on the expiration date of registration:

31 (A) Logging dolly.

32 (B) Pole or pipe dolly.

1 (C) Semitrailer.

2 (D) Trailer.

3 (E) Trailer bus.

4 (2) An auxiliary dolly or tow dolly may be assigned a  
5 permanent trailer identification plate.

6 (3) Trailer coaches and park trailers, as described in  
7 subdivision (b) of Section 18010 of the Health and Safety Code,  
8 are exempted from the permanent trailer identification plate  
9 program.

10 (b) The permanent trailer identification plate shall be in a size  
11 and design as determined by the department.

12 (c) The permanent trailer identification plate shall not expire.  
13 The permanent trailer identification plate shall not expire as long  
14 as a Permanent Trailer Identification Certificate is in effect for that  
15 vehicle.

16 (d) Upon sale or transfer of the commercial trailer or  
17 semitrailer, the assigned permanent trailer identification plate  
18 shall remain with the trailer or semitrailer for the life of the vehicle  
19 except as provided in Section 5101. Upon transfer of ownership,  
20 a new identification certificate shall be issued.

21 (e) A service fee, sufficient to pay at least the entire actual costs  
22 to the department, not to exceed twenty dollars (\$20) shall be  
23 assessed by the department upon assigning a permanent trailer  
24 identification plate.

25 (f) A fee of seven dollars (\$7) for substitute permanent trailer  
26 identification plates or certificates shall be charged.

27 (g) All outstanding trailer and semitrailer license plates and  
28 registration indicia that were issued under this code prior to on  
29 December 31, 2001, shall be considered valid, upon which is  
30 affixed a Permanent Trailer Identification Sticker issued by the  
31 department, may be displayed in lieu of a Permanent Trailer  
32 Identification Plate as described in Section 5011 and Section 5014.

33 SEC. 4. Section 5017 of the Vehicle Code is amended to read:

34 5017. (a) Each identification plate issued under Section 5016  
35 shall bear a distinctive number to identify the equipment, logging  
36 vehicle, trailer, semitrailer, or implement of husbandry for which  
37 it is issued. The owner, upon being issued a plate, shall attach it to  
38 the equipment, logging vehicle, or implement of husbandry for  
39 which it is issued and shall carry the identification certificate  
40 issued by the department as provided by Section 4454. It shall be

1 unlawful for any person to attach or use the plate upon any other  
2 equipment, logging vehicle, trailer, semitrailer, or implement of  
3 husbandry. If the equipment, logging vehicle, or implement of  
4 husbandry is destroyed or the ownership thereof transferred to  
5 another person, the person to whom the plate was issued shall  
6 within 10 days notify the department, on a form approved by the  
7 department, that the equipment, logging vehicle, trailer,  
8 semitrailer, or implement of husbandry has been destroyed or the  
9 ownership thereof transferred to another person.

10 (b) Upon the implementation of the permanent trailer  
11 identification plate program, all trailers except those exempted in  
12 paragraph (3) of subdivision (a) of Section 5014.1 may be assigned  
13 a single permanent plate for identification purposes. Upon  
14 issuance of the plate, it shall be attached to the vehicle pursuant to  
15 Sections 5200 and 5201.

16 (c) An identification certificate shall be issued for each trailer  
17 or semitrailer assigned an identification plate. The identification  
18 certificate shall contain upon its face, the date issued, the name and  
19 residence or business address of the registered owner or lessee and  
20 of the legal owner, if any, the vehicle identification number  
21 assigned to the trailer or semitrailer, and a description of the trailer  
22 or semitrailer as complete as that required in the application for  
23 registration of the trailer or semitrailer. When an identification  
24 certificate, *or a copy of the registration that was valid for that*  
25 *trailer or semitrailer on December 30, 2001*, has been issued to a  
26 trailer or semitrailer, the owner or operator shall make that  
27 certificate available for inspection by a peace officer upon request.

28 (d) The application for transfer of ownership of a vehicle with  
29 a trailer plate or permanent trailer identification plate shall be  
30 made within 10 days of sale of the vehicle. A service fee of seven  
31 dollars (\$7) shall be charged according to subdivision (c) of  
32 Section 9261. The permanent trailer identification certificate is not  
33 a certificate of ownership as described in Section 38076.

34 SEC. 5. Section 9400 of the Vehicle Code is amended to read:  
35 9400. Except as provided in Section 9400.1, and in addition  
36 to any other registration fee, there shall be paid the fees set forth  
37 in this section for the registration of any commercial motor vehicle  
38 singly, or in combination, that operates with a ~~declared gross~~  
39 ~~weight~~ *unladen weight* of 10,000 pounds or less. Weight fees for  
40 pickup trucks are calculated under this section. Whenever a

camper is temporarily attached to a motor vehicle designed to transport property, the motor vehicle shall be subject to the fees imposed by this section. The camper shall be deemed to be a load, and fees imposed by this section upon the motor vehicle shall be based upon the unladen weight of the motor vehicle, exclusive of the camper.

(a) For any electric vehicle designed, used, or maintained as described in this section, fees shall be paid according to the following schedule:

Unladen Weight	Fee
Less than 6,000 lbs. ....	\$ 87
6,000 lbs. or more but less than 10,000 lbs. ....	266
10,000 lbs. or more ....	358

(b) For any motor vehicle having not more than two axles and designed, used, or maintained as described in this section, other than an electric vehicle, fees shall be paid according to the following schedule:

Unladen Weight	Fee
Less than 3,000 lbs. ....	\$ 8
3,000 lbs. to and including 4,000 lbs. ....	24
4,001 lbs. to and including 5,000 lbs. ....	80
5,001 lbs. to and including 6,000 lbs. ....	154
6,001 lbs. to and including 7,000 lbs. ....	204
7,001 lbs. to and including 8,000 lbs. ....	257
8,001 lbs. to and including 9,000 lbs. ....	308
9,001 lbs. to and including 10,000 lbs. ....	360

(c) For any motor vehicle having three or more axles designed, used, or maintained as described in this section, other than an electric vehicle, fees shall be paid for registration according to the following schedule:

Unladen Weight	Fee
2,000 lbs. to and including 3,000 lbs. ....	\$ 43
3,001 lbs. to and including 4,000 lbs. ....	77
4,001 lbs. to and including 5,000 lbs. ....	154
5,001 lbs. to and including 6,000 lbs. ....	231

1	6,001 lbs. to and including 7,000 lbs. ....	308
2	7,001 lbs. to and including 8,000 lbs. ....	385
3	8,001 lbs. to and including 9,000 lbs. ....	462
4	9,001 lbs. to and including 10,000 lbs. ....	539

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6 (d) This section is not applicable to any vehicle that is operated  
7 or moved over the highway exclusively for the purpose of  
8 historical exhibition or other similar noncommercial purpose.

9 (e) (1) Except as provided in paragraph (2), in addition to the  
10 fees set forth in subdivisions (b) and (c), a Cargo Theft Interdiction  
11 Program Fee of three dollars (\$3) shall be paid at the time of initial  
12 or original registration or renewal of registration of each motor  
13 vehicle subject to weight fees under this section.

14 (2) This subdivision does not apply to vehicles used or  
15 maintained for the transportation of persons for hire,  
16 compensation or profit, pickup trucks, utility trailers, and tow  
17 trucks.

18 (3) For vehicles registered under Article 4 (commencing with  
19 Section 8050) of Chapter 4, the fee imposed under this subdivision  
20 shall be apportioned as required for registration fees under that  
21 article.

22 (4) Funds collected pursuant to the Cargo Theft Interdiction  
23 Program shall be transferred to the Motor Carriers Safety  
24 Improvement Fund.

25 (f) The fee changes effected by this section apply to (1) initial  
26 or original registration on or after January 1, 1995, and prior to  
27 December 31, 2001, of any commercial vehicle never before  
28 registered in this state and (2) to renewal of registration of any  
29 commercial vehicle whose registration expires on or after January  
30 1, 1995, and prior to December 31, 2001.

31 (g) Commercial vehicles, other than those specified in Section  
32 9400.1, with an initial registration or renewal of registration that  
33 is due on or after December 31, 2001, are subject to the payment  
34 of fees specified in this section.

